



PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

CR-101 (June 2004)

(Implements RCW 34.05.310)

Do NOT use for expedited rule making

Agency: Department of Ecology A. O. # 08-05

Subject of possible rule making: Rule amendment for Chapter 173-224 WAC – Wastewater Discharge Permit Fees.

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject: RCW 90.48.465 – Water Pollution Control

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish: To increase fees for all wastewater and stormwater permit holders for FY2009 by 5.57% (the fiscal growth factor projection) as authorized by the State Legislature. Ecology also will include a fee increase proposal for FY2010 totaling 5.39%, the fiscal growth factor projection, if a fee increase is authorized by the State Legislature. If an increase is not authorized, FY09 fees will remain: Monies received fund the Wastewater/Stormwater Permit Program. Ecology also proposes to add a definition for seafood processing to make clear what permitted activities fit into that fee category. An increase to the extreme hardship fee reduction minimum fee is also being proposed. The fee will increase by 5.57% for FY2009 and 5.39% for FY2010.

Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies: None

Process for developing new rule (check all that apply):

☐ Negotiated rule making

☐ Pilot rule making

☐ Agency study

☒ Other (describe) Amend an existing rule. Hold public workshops/hearings around the state. Direct mailings to those impacted by the rule change. Information posted on the Ecology Permit Fee web page http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/permits/permit_fees/index.htm.

How interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication:

(List names, addresses, telephone, fax numbers, and e-mail of persons to contact; describe meetings, other exchanges of information, etc.)

Bev Poston

Department of Ecology

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4/23/08

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